



ITACS

Information Technology and Communications Services

Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California

Technology News

January 2006

MONTEREY PENINSULA DoD-NET CIO COUNCIL MEETING HOSTED BY NPS

The MP DoD-Net CIO Council meeting with senior leaders, hosted by NPS, was held on January 20th. **Admiral Richard Wells**, President of NPS, welcomed all the attendees, and noted the value of the MP DoD-Net, not only in growing reductions in communications costs, but also in fostering contacts and cooperative efforts in other mission areas. Admiral Wells also thanked those present for their participation, and encouraged the CIO Council to continue accelerating progress on the 2006 agenda. The Assistant City Manager, **Mr. Fred Cohn**, presented the group with a brief history of Monterey's Institutional Network (I-Net) which later expanded to include the MP DoD-Net. **Ms. Terri Brutzman** reported that the System Security Authorization Agreement (SSAA) was complete, and that authority to operate had been approved. **Dr. Joseph Cotham** of the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL), discussed the ongoing server failover test, the upcoming storage area network test, and formation of an IPv6 subcommittee within the MP DoD-Net working group. **Mr. Mark Breckenridge** of the Data Manpower Defense Center (DMDC) briefed all on the worldwide deployment status of the Defense Biometric Identification System (DBIDS), noting that the regional model on the Monterey peninsula is being implemented in all new DBIDS deployments. **LCDR Warren Yu** of Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center (FNMOC), briefly discussed ways that the MP DoD-Net infrastructure could be leveraged to increase its operational efficiency, by expanding cooperative efforts into areas beyond the network. **Lt. Colonel Jorge Serafin** of Defense Language Institute (DLI) reported that all necessary documentation had been prepared for the transition of the telephone circuits between the Presidio and Ord Military Community from leased T-1 lines onto MPD DoD-Net circuits. **Mr. Joe LoPiccolo** briefed the group on the

streaming media initiative at NPS. **Mr. Paul Congo**, Executive Director of Access Monterey Peninsula (AMP), presented the many capabilities of AMP to provide fixed and mobile video production facilities to augment the limited DoD facilities in the area. **Mr. John Van Hise** provided information on the Joint Intelligence Virtual University (JIVU.edu) research project, and **Mr. Jeff Weekly** discussed the joint DLI-NPS Arabic Avatar project. The CIO Council will continue to meet quarterly in 2006, beginning in March. The Monterey Peninsula DoD leadership group will meet with the CIO Council in January 2007.

SHAREPOINT UPDATE

Beginning in January, NPS requires that all students use SharePoint for thesis processing; however, using the site is not mandatory for faculty. SharePoint provides better version control, less volume on network traffic, improved business processes, time-saving, and responsiveness to the Digitization Committee's efforts to reduce paper usage on campus. ITACS provides training for SharePoint users. To attend a SharePoint class, find the scheduled times on the student check-in page.

The link to the FAQs for SharePoint can be found at: <http://www.nps.navy.mil/ITACS/KB/browseCategories.asp>. Please contact **Ms. Rhoda Lynch**, SharePoint Administrator, at rlynch@nps.edu or 656-3128, if you have questions, or want more information.

ERN UPDATE

ITACS has completed the move to the ERN network for the Graduate School of Business and Public Policy, the Graduate School of Operation and Information Sciences, and the School of International Graduate Studies. The Graduate School of Engineering and Applied Sciences is slated to begin its transition on February 28th.



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ZEPHYR SUPPORTS STUDENT PROJECTS

ITACS has a new Windows 2003 server named "Zephyr" which will be used to support student web application projects. This web server addresses a long-standing need for a place to host student project/research websites without affecting the NPS production web servers. To be hosted on the new server, projects must be used for a class or for research. Those interested in using the server should submit a request through the Technology Assistance Center. If approved, ITACS staff from the Business Solutions Group (BSG) will create the site and assign the required access permissions. After that, the site is turned over to the student(s). Kris Runaas, a student at NPS, is the first user of this new capability. His site is for the COASTS research project and can be found at:

<http://studentdev.nps.navy.mil/COASTS/>

(IE browsers only!)

Links with * require a login, which will not be available to general visitors.

Contact **Mr. Alan Pires**, Manager, BSG, at 656-2752, if you have any questions, or would like more information.

NOTES FROM THE IT TASK FORCE MEETING

Mr. Tracy Hammond provided a recap of his presentation to the group in December on classroom inventory, and identified three areas — environment, audio-visual equipment, and the remaining IT-related items — that have been evaluated. Mr. Hammond distributed a summary of the classroom environment, noting that significant percentages of classrooms and LRCs need attention. A review of the conditions was presented to **Mr. George Conner**, who has allocated funds to implement a six-month pilot to begin to rectify the situation. Dr. Cermak noted that this focused project will hopefully bring greater attention, ownership and established lines of authority to resolve this campus-

wide problem. **Mr. Mike Andersen**, Director of Academic Administration, gave a presentation on the PYTHON student management system. Mr. Andersen outlined the priorities, challenges, and goals of his department in working with PYTHON, and invited immediate and future discussions and feedback from the group.

PARTNERSHIPS AND OUTREACH

On January 31, 2006, **Dr. Christine Cermak** hosted CENIC (state higher education network) President **Mr. Jim Dolgonas**, CENIC Infrastructure Director **Mr. Greg Scott**, County CIO **Mr. Virgil Schwab**, Deputy County CIO **Mr. Dave Dalby**, CSUMB CIO **Mr. Gil Gonzales**, CSUMB Network Operations Director **Mr. Chris Taylor**, NPS Network Engineer **Mr. Bill Hogan**, CSU System Infrastructure Director **Mr. Mark Crase**, and Comcast Network Engineer **Mr. Doug Nolan**, for a meeting regarding last mile connectivity for NPS. Special thanks to **Mr. Jim Dolgonas** and **Mr. Virgil Schwab** for their strong support of NPS and its efforts to expand CENIC connectivity.

The City of Monterey has agreed to make more of their fiber-optic cable available to support a new member which will be joining the **Monterey Peninsula Department of Defense Net (MP DoD-Net)**. The Defense Personnel Security Research and Education Center (PERSEREC), a division of DoD Human Resources, whose mission is "to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and fairness of DoD personnel and industrial security systems," will be joining; the project is ongoing with a projected completion date in April.

On January 11th, the All-Hands Training for all ITACS personnel featured Remedy training by **Mr. Alan Pires**, Manager, Business Solutions Group.



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Dr. Christine Cermak and **Mr. J. P. Pierson**, Network Engineer, attended the Association of Communications Technology Professionals in Higher Education, (ACUTA) Conference from January 8-11 in Palm Springs, California. As part of the Mobility and Wireless Issues track, Dr. Cermak and Mr. Pierson presented an overview of wireless implementation and management at NPS.

On January 4-5, in Oakland, **Dr. Fran Horvath**, **Dr. Julie Filizetti**, **Mr. Knox Millsap** and **Dr. Christine Cermak** attended a Western Association of Colleges (WASC) workshop, for institutions that are about to enter into the re-accreditation process. The WASC workshop provided various approaches and examples for producing a proposal, which outlines the focus and approach for accreditation that an institution will take over the next four years. NPS will submit its proposal to WASC in October 2006.

Mr. Bill Hogan attended the High Performance Research Network Technical Advisory Committee (HPR TAC) meeting in Berkley on January 27th. Mr. Hogan reported that the CENIC 2006 Conference will be held at the Oakland Marriott City Center from March 13-15. The keynote speakers will be **Dr. Francine Berman**, Director of the San Diego Supercomputer Center, and **Mr. Scott Bradner**, University Technology Security officer at Harvard. Design proposals for the technology refresh (next generation) high performance and experimental networks were discussed; recommendations will be finalized soon and will be forwarded to CENIC's Board of Directors in June.

Ms. Danielle Kuska of the Research Office has formed a Financial Systems weekly planning group to assess current and future needs at NPS. Members of the group are **Ms. Kuska**, **Mr. George Conner**, **Mr. Kevin Little**, **Mr. Gil Howard**, **Ms. Megan Reilly**, and **Dr. Christine Cermak**.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that during the last quarter, the Server Management group, a sector of the Network Operations Center, has:

1. Deployed 38 new servers: 5 have been rebuilt on the EDU and Mil domains.
2. Built 2 new Solaris 10 units as front-end Unix DNS servers for the EDU domain.
3. Updated the SAN attached 3 active-1 passive file server cluster to a 5 active – 1 passive, and rebuilt two existing servers to accommodate a more organized home filing hierarchy. This configuration gives the EDU domain a robust with redundant failover file system.
4. Setup and deployed an EMC 18 Terabyte CX500 SANs system. This system provides redundant failover data storage and backup capabilities for 10 systems.
5. Transitioned over 630 NPS MIL accounts to the new EDU domain.
6. Built the earth Unix home file server with new Solaris 10 operating system and moved the home files to the EMC SAN.
7. Responded to over 825 remedy calls for user account assistance.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE CENTER

During January, the Technology Assistance Center (TAC) answered a total of 1,549 calls, 894 of which were resolved by the Tier 1/Tier 2 areas. The remaining calls were answered by other ITACS departments/groups. The TAC staff also assisted users in archiving and/or moving files, and in troubleshooting, both prior to and after their migration to the ERN network. TAC members have been well received and appreciated for their efforts.



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NEWS FROM NTIC

The New Technology and Innovation Center (NTIC) hosted an on-campus demonstration by ForeScout Technologies and Accordent Technologies, which specializes in network compliance appliances, and risk media webcasting solutions, respectively.

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY RECAP

The Video-Tele-Education department installed a new videoconferencing bridge for NPS. This was a critical installation because every multi-point VTE class uses this technology to connect. Supervised by **Mr. Tracy Hammond**, **Mr. Harry Thomas**, the VTE Technical Lead, **Ms. Lonna Sherwin**, Manager of Network Operations, and **Joe Bornino**, Telecommunications Specialist, also worked closely with the Tandberg installers on the project.